

THE USUAL EMPTY FORMALITY

Of Objecting to the Seating of Senator Scott Was Enacted by Jones, of Arkansas.

WHEELING PUBLIC BUILDING

Bill Introduced in Senate by Mr. Scott—Other Important Business.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 6.—Senator Jones, of Arkansas, to-day went through the form of introducing a resolution in the senate declaring that N. B. Scott, of West Virginia, is not entitled to a seat in that body. The resolution, together with Mr. John T. McGraw's protest, was referred to the proper committee. This action has been anticipated in the Intelligencer. It was well understood that "some Democratic senator" would introduce a resolution of the character of that offered by Mr. Jones, and that it would carry "the papers in the case" with it to the committee on privileges and elections.

It is probable the matter will be considered to-morrow, but it may be deferred for a week or more. Senator Scott is quite willing that it should be heard promptly.

Senator Scott to-day introduced a bill, in terms the same as that recently introduced in the house by Mr. Dovenor, providing for the erection of a public building in Wheeling to cost \$1,000,000.

The senator also presented a joint resolution providing for a grant of the use of the custom house in Parkersburg to the state courts, pending the construction of a county court house, and will to-morrow introduce a bill to provide for a public building in Huntington, both of which are also on their way through the house.

Senator Scott has secured a promise of consideration by the committee to-morrow of the joint resolution, and hopes to secure its prompt passage.

Senator Elkins has been appointed a member of the committee on the part of the Republican caucus of the senate to allot the committee places. It is probable he will ask for the assignment of his colleague to the committee on District of Columbia.

The house committee appointed yesterday to investigate the charges against Representative-elect Roberts, of which committee Judge Freer is a member, will hold a meeting to-morrow to map out a plan of procedure.

The house caucus to-day decided unanimously to support the financial bill prepared by the committee which had the matter in charge last summer. It is, therefore, now an assured fact that so far as the house is concerned, at least, a declaration will be made, probably before Christmas, that the standard unit of value shall be the gold dollar, of the prescribed quality and fineness.

It is understood the proposition to refund the public debt at the rate of 2 per cent, on the plan proposed by Secretary Gaxe, will be added to the financial bill in the senate. It is, therefore, within the range of probability that within the next few months the Republican administration will add to its list of wonderful achievements the remarkable feat of carrying a national debt at a lower rate than ever before known, and reducing the interest charges by one-half.

From what was learned to-day it is concluded that Speaker Henderson will make no changes in the chairmanship list. Those who are members of the present house coming from the last Congress at the head of committees will be retained as chairmen. This will, of course, preclude the advancement of Mr. Dayton to the position of chairman of the naval committee. It has been made manifest, however, that the speaker holds Mr. Dayton in high estimation, and it is only the necessity of maintaining an unbroken rule that stands in the way of the promotion of the West Virginia member.

Captain French E. Chadwick, United States Navy, whom West Virginians delight to honor, is in Washington and expects to remain several days.

Senator Elkins went to Philadelphia to-day on a business trip.

THE SENATE

Considering Polygamy—Sympathy for the Boers.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 6.—Nearly 500 bills and joint resolutions, several important concurrent resolutions and petitions numbering hundreds, were presented to the senate to-day. A majority of the bills were old stagers. A few were of national interest and importance.

Mr. Aldrich had the honor of introducing the first measure in the senate. It was the financial bill drawn by the senate committee on finance, of which Mr. Aldrich is chairman, and probably was the most important measure introduced during the day.

Mr. Jones, of Arkansas, offered a resolution that Senator N. B. Scott, of West Virginia, is not entitled to a seat in the senate. The resolution, together with a memorial of John T. McGraw on the subject, was referred to the committee on privileges and elections.

Mr. Rawlins, of Utah, offered the following resolution and asked that it be considered immediately:

"That the committee on judiciary is

hereby instructed to inquire into and report to the senate:

"First, to what extent polygamy is practiced or polygamous marriages entered into in the United States or in places over which they have jurisdiction.

"Second, have polygamists, or persons reputed to have more than one wife, been elected to office by the people of Utah; and, if so, has such election been for the purpose of encouraging polygamy or in violation of any compact between said state and the United States.

"Third, have polygamists, or persons reputed to have more than one wife, been appointed to office by the President and by advice and consent of the senate, or in cases where the concurrence of the senate is not required, and if so, have such appointments been made in aid of polygamy or in violation of the compact between the United States and the state of Utah with reference to that subject.

"Fourth, what, if any, steps should be taken or measures enacted for the prevention of polygamy in the United States and in places over which they have jurisdiction."

Mr. Wolcott, of Colorado, objected to immediate consideration, and the resolution was referred to the judiciary committee.

Mr. Mason, of Illinois, offered the following resolution, which he asked to be allowed to lie on the table until he should call it up:

"Whereas, from the hour of achieving their own independence, the people of the United States have regarded with sympathy the struggles of other people to free themselves from European domination, therefore,

"Resolved, by the senate of the United States, that we watch with deep and abiding interest the heroic battle of the South African republic against cruelty and oppression, and our best hopes go out for the full success of their determined contest for liberty."

The senate at 2:20 p. m. went into executive session and at 2:50 p. m. adjourned.

HOUSE FINANCIAL BILL

Receives Unanimous Approval of Republican Members and Will Receive Immediate Consideration. Special Rule to be Adopted—Debate Begins Monday, and Final Vote at Close of Week.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 6.—The Republican members of the house of representatives gave their unanimous approval to-day to the house financial bill recently introduced, and recommended its immediate consideration and passage. This was accomplished at the caucus held in the hall of the house during the afternoon, by the adoption of the following resolution:

"Resolved, That house resolution No. 1, entitled 'A bill to define and fix the standard of value, to maintain the parity of all forms of money issued or coined by the United States, and for other purposes,' be and the same is hereby approved, and its immediate consideration by the house and passage after reasonable debate is recommended and urged."

In pursuance of this resolution, Mr. Overstreet, of Indiana, who introduced the bill and is in general charge of it, to-morrow will submit a resolution asking that a special rule be reported for the immediate consideration of this measure. The terms of this special rule are practically agreed upon and provide that the debate will begin next Monday, with a final vote at the close of the week.

The caucus of Republican members of the house was resumed at 2 o'clock in the hall of the house of representatives to consider plans for the consideration of the financial bill. The meeting was well attended and the general interest manifested gave promise of a protracted session. Mr. Cannon, of Illinois, who acted as chairman at the opening meeting last night, gave way to Mr. Hepburn, of Iowa, as he desired to present some views on the proposed bill. Mr. Cannon secured early recognition and took up the terms of the bill in considerable detail.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Sympathetically Received by the German Officials and Press, and Will Have Good Effect in Settling Questions Now Pending.

BERLIN, Dec. 6.—The message sent to Congress yesterday by President McKinley has been most sympathetically received by newspaper and government circles in Germany. This is especially true of the foreign office, one of the highest officials of which told the representative of the Associated Press that the document had made a splendid impression, adding that the distinctively warm tone of the message will tend in an important manner to deepening and strengthening the friendship of the two countries materially, and to removing difficulties and settling the meat and sugar questions still pending.

WASHINGTON MEMORIAL

Association Recommends Schools Close at 11 A. M. on the 14th Inst. and Have Memorial Programmes in Honor of the First President.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.—The George Washington Memorial Association has made public a request that on December 14th, 1899, the centennial anniversary of Washington's death, all the schools of the land will suspend the regular order of exercises at 11 o'clock a. m. and devote twenty minutes to a memorial programme, including a brief eulogy of the life and character of our first President, George Washington.

Dealing With Conditions.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Dec. 6.—A meeting of the general passenger agents of the different railroads running out of Buffalo will be held in that city on Saturday for the purpose of dealing with the conditions which have brought about the demoralization of rates.

BURNED AT THE STAKE IN KENTUCKY.

Murderer Taken From Officers by a Mob Numbering Two Thousand.

AND BURNED AT THE STAKE,

After His Captors Had Gouged Out the Eyes of Their Helpless Victim.

MAYSVILLE, Ky., Dec. 6.—Richard Coleman, colored, confessed murderer of Mrs. James Lashbrook, wife of his employer, expiated his crime in daylight to-day, at the hands of a mob consisting of citizens, thousands in number, by burning at the stake, after suffering torture and fright beyond description.

The dreadful spectacle occurred on the peaceful cricket grounds on the outskirts of this, one of the oldest and among the proudest cities of Kentucky. The barbarities inflicted upon this young negro by citizens of one of the most highly civilized cities of the state are almost beyond belief, and can only be accounted for by the intense horror created by long consideration of the atrocious crime, of which full confession had been made by Coleman. Just two months ago Richard Coleman, the trusted employe of Farmer James Lashbrook, in a manner peculiarly atrocious, murdered the woman who had been his benefactor. Coleman was not only employed on the farm, but had been installed as a house servant and was trusted implicitly by both Mr. Lashbrook and his wife. On the day of the murder, Mr. Lashbrook was at work some distance from the house. Coleman was left in charge of the house. Mrs. Lashbrook had driven to Maysville and returned, when Coleman asked her to enter the cabin to look at some work at which he had been engaged. The negro then locked the door on the inside. Mrs. Lashbrook became frightened and screamed.

Coleman struck her on the head, knocking her down, but not stopping her cries. He then seized a razor and cut her throat. He picked up the bleeding body and placed it on the bed. He then left the room, but returning, heard her still groaning and with an axe he struck her repeatedly on the head until he was sure she was dead. Without any show of alarm or remorse for his crime, the negro calmly washed the blood from his hands and clothing and went to where Mr. Lashbrook was at work in the field, and told him that he had better come to the house as some one had killed his wife. Mr. Lashbrook did not take the matter seriously until Coleman insisted that his wife was dead. Even then, so great was the confidence of Mr. Lashbrook in Coleman, that no thought occurred that he was the murderer. It was not until after the officers arrived that suspicion was directed against Coleman. Blood spots had been found on his clothing, but he accounted for them by saying that he had been killing chickens.

That night, however, at Maysville, a partial confession was obtained, and knowing the result if that fact should become known, the officers quietly took him to Covington, Ky., for safe keeping. He was indicted for the murder. Shortly after his incarceration at Covington, he made a complete and horrible confession of his crime to the jailer. The story of his revolting crime, including worse than murder, was told without any appearance of feeling by the prisoner. This confession becoming public, roused a feeling of indignation against the prisoner among the relatives and friends of the victim, which made it morally certain that the officers of the law would be powerless to prevent a summary vengeance at the first opportunity. Still, the authorities at Maysville did not act upon that basis. There was no call upon the governor for troops to protect the prisoner.

On Tuesday, Sheriff Perrine, under orders of Judge Harbeson, with four assistants, went to Covington expecting to return with Coleman on Tuesday night, but, after reaching Covington, the jailer at Maysville wired not to attempt to bring the prisoner into Maysville at night.

The trial was set for to-day. Sheriff Perrine determined to leave Covington by the train on the Chesapeake & Ohio, which started at 7:30 Wednesday morning from Cincinnati and Covington. Coleman was apprised Tuesday night to prepare to return to the scene of his crime. He was instantly stricken with fear and begged pitiously to be permitted to remain in Covington until after his trial. He said he expected to die, but he dreaded the vengeance of a mob. When he was handcuffed on leaving the jail in Covington he was almost paralyzed, and had to be assisted to the patrol wagon. The crowd about the jail there and at the Covington depot, added to his fear.

On entering the train he seemed unable to sit down until one of the guards forced him into a seat. It developed that in the crowd at Covington, and even on the train, there were some of the relatives of Mrs. Lashbrook, ready to convey information if any attempt was made to secrete the prisoner. Messages were sent here.

The prisoner, with his escort, arrived at 10:20 o'clock. Sheriff Perrine, while en route to Maysville, had been informed that a mob was awaiting the arrival of the train at the depot, and he had prepared for the swearing in of deputy sheriffs.

As the train puffed slowly into the old station the mob formed on both sides in two long but closely huddled crowds. Armed men stationed themselves at the platforms of all the cars, and warned the frightened passengers to remain quiet and not to interfere. A low murmur gathered louder force as it spread up and down the lines, and its volume slowly increased to a roar, as first one and then another of the waiting men plunged into the cars. The sheriff and his assistants were strongly armed, and there was some resistance as the leaders of the mob stormed roughly against them and hoarse demands were uttered from the outer edges of the crowd.

Sheriff Perrine made a bold movement, and started walking swiftly, but with no indications of panic, from the car. A step behind him followed the officers with Coleman in their midst, peering anxiously from side to side and seeking to conceal himself behind the brawny forms of his protectors.

As the officers proceeded, the numbers of the crowd were constantly swelled by new arrivals, and through the downtown business streets to the court house they were closely followed. Hundreds of stones and other missiles were thrown and revolvers and rifles were freely displayed. The prisoner was frequently struck, and he presented a frightful appearance, the blood streaming from wounds on his face and head. At the court house a mob of over 2,000 men headed by James Lashbrook, the husband, had been hastily formed.

The demand for the prisoner was made, accompanied by threats from the leaders, and there were loud murmurs from the outskirts of the mob. There was a brief struggle, in which weapons were hastily drawn by the officers, and then the sheriff and his assistants were overcome by sheer force of numbers, and the prisoner was pulled from their midst by the triumphant leaders of the mob.

The place of execution had been selected several weeks ago, in accordance with all the other arranged details of the programme, mapped out by the leaders of the mob. The prisoner was dragged to the sapling and strapped against the tree, facing the husband of the victim. Large quantities of dry brush and larger bits of wood were piled around him while he was praying for speedy death. James Lashbrook, the husband of the victim, applied the first match to the brushwood. A brother of the victim struck the second match. Some one with a knife was vainly slashing at the prisoner's chest. By a sort of cruel concurrence of action on the part of the mob, not a single shot was fired. The purpose seemed to be to give the wretch the greatest possible amount and duration of torture. A fatal shot would have been merciful, and there was no mercy in the crowd surrounding Richard Coleman. As the flames arose, his horrors increased. He made vain efforts to withdraw his limbs from the encroaching fire; his eyes rolled in a frenzy of suffering. The ropes securing him to the tree were burned, and his body finally fell forward on the burning pile. Even then, although it was not certain whether he was living or dead, the vengeful purpose of the crowd led them to use rails and long poles to push his body back into the flames. It is not certain how long life lasted. During the process, while his voice could be heard, he asked for a drink of water, his tongue protruding and his eye-balls fairly started from his head. At the end of three hours his body was practically cremated. All that time members of the family of Mrs. Lashbrook had remained to keep up the fire and keep the body in position where it would continue to burn. At that time a nephew of Mrs. Lashbrook was pushing the body onto the burned embers, while a curious crowd of several thousand persons still lingered on the scene. It is said that on the march through the city the prisoner's eyes had been burned out by acid thrown in an egg shell.

KENTUCKY ELECTION BOARD

Wrestling With Contested Returns From Nelson and Other Counties.

REPUBLICANS WILL CLAIM

That First Returns for Nelson County Were No Returns at all as Far as Concerns Taylor.

FRANKFORT, Ky., Dec. 6.—The state election commissioners consumed the entire time to-day hearing arguments in the contested election cases. Yesterday the Democrats allowed without comment the vote of Nelson county to be tabulated, but it was for the purpose of making a hard fight upon it later. This is the county where the judges of elections certified to the casting of ballots for W. P. Taylor instead of W. S. Taylor. They filed a second certification correcting the error. And this has now been accepted by the canvassing board. The Democrats will claim that this has established a precedent under which amended returns can be received, and expect to bring in enough amended certificates from other counties to overcome the Republican plurality. The Republicans will contend, however, that the first return of Nelson county was not a return at all as far as the Republican candidate was concerned. There was no such individual as W. P. Taylor and a certification of votes for each individual can in no way, they will assert, prejudice the certificate filed giving the votes to W. S. Taylor. They will make a hard fight on the proposition that the certificate for W. S. Taylor was an original document, the other amounting to nothing.

In deciding the course of argument, it was arranged that the Democratic attorney should have the close. The Republicans agreed to open and L. D. W. Farleigh, for their side, brought up the question that the board had no right to go behind the returns of the county canvassing boards.

Boers are encamped in Hills Half Way to Kimberley. Boer Redoubt Carried With a Rush by Col. Scott-Turner's Command.

LONDON, Dec. 7, 4:30 a. m.—Again there is a complete lull in news from the seat of war. Ladysmith has established telegraphic communication with Frere's and it is reported that all was well up to Sunday. A dispatch from the Boer laager, by way of Lourenzo Marques, dated Thursday, November 30, confirms the report that the commandos have been closing in upon Ladysmith and mounting big guns in new positions. According to the same advice a heavy cannonade had been maintained and a general assault had been ordered for Thursday morning, but was countermanded at the last moment.

Modder River dispatches say that the Boers are encamped amid the hills, half way to Kimberley; but it is also asserted that a large body of the enemy had gone in the direction of Jacobsdal. It is possible, therefore, that Lord Methuen may endeavor to clear his right flank as far as Jacobsdal before continuing his advance. He is still waiting at Modder river for stores, guns and ammunition. The sortie from Kimberley on November 25 appears to have been much more serious than had been supposed. Details are now arriving of a reconnaissance in force by mounted troops, under Colonel Scott-Turner, at dawn, in the direction of a ridge near Carter's Farm, where the Boers were strongly entrenched. Finding the Boer's pickets asleep, Colonel Scott-Turner proceeded along the ridge under cover, and rushed the Boer redoubts at 5:25 a. m. in the face of a hail of bullets.

Promoted to Major General of Volunteers, Placing Him Next in Rank to General Brooks, Outranking Generals Wilson, Lee, Wheeler, Bates, Young, Chaffee and Ludlow.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.—According to the officials of the war department, the promotion of General Wood to the grade of major general of volunteers is not likely to cause any immediate change in his present station and duties as commander of the military provinces of Santiago and Puerto Principe. General Wood had an interview with Secretary Root at the war department to-day and at its conclusion said that he expected to return to Santiago in a few days, but it was possible he might be allowed to spend the Christmas holidays in this city. As major general of volunteers, General Wood will be the second ranking officer in Cuba, his single military superior being Major General Brooke, commanding the division, who is a major general in the regular establishment. General Wood's advancement gives him rank above Generals Wilson, Lee, Wheeler, Bates, Young, Chaffee and Ludlow, all of whom were senior to him in the volunteer army. Although all the officers named were major generals of volunteers during the Spanish war they at present hold only the rank of brigadier general.

Counting General Wood, there are now eight major general in the army, including Generals Miles, Morrill and Brooke, of the regular army. The other volunteer major generals are Shafter, Otis, Lawton and MacArthur. General Wood's appointment is made under authority of the statute allowing an officer of that rank for every 12,000 men in active service. Including the 35,000 volunteers recently enlisted for the service in the Philippines the present strength of the army is in round numbers 100,000 men.

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HON. E. TRACY TOBIN.

West Virginia Commissioner to the National Export Exposition, Submits His Report to the Governor. Criticizes Management of the Congress, Exposition and Museum.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE INTELLIGENCER. CHARLESTON, W. Va., Dec. 6.—An elaborate and very exhaustive report was received yesterday by the governor from E. Tracy Tobin, of Philadelphia, who was commissioner from West Virginia to the National Export Exposition, held at Philadelphia from September 14, to December 14, 1898, and delegate to the International Commercial Congress, held in conjunction with the exposition, from October 13 to November 1. Mr. Tobin also submits a short resume of the Philadelphia Commercial Museum, under whose auspices both were held.

"Of the matters developed at the Congress," he says, "naturally those of the greatest interest to West Virginia were such as might bear most directly upon her own principal industries, of coal, lumber, oil and iron, and of these it was suggested an increased export trade could be developed, of coal to England and to Mexico and possibly to India; of lumber to New Zealand and the West Indies; of oil to Australia, Russia, Hungary, Japan and India; of iron to England, Australia, Germany, Spain and Mexico."

Mr. Tobin criticizes most severely the management of the congress, exposition and museum. "As to the desirability or expediency of the state of West Virginia at the present time becoming allied with it, I cannot," he says, "conscientiously report favorably to your excellency, and I cannot see the advantage that would inure to the state of West Virginia by any of her commercial organizations forming or further continuing their association with the Commercial Museum under such biased, narrow, pedantic and impotent management. . . . And I regret to further report that the management of the museum, on every possible occasion, took occasion to insult the state of West Virginia."

From these latter charges Mr. Tobin exempts a number of officials by name.

THE TOP NOTCH

In Prices Has Been Reached—Consumption of Merchant Steel Advancing—American Manufacturer's View of the Iron and Steel Situation.

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 6.—The American Manufacturer will say to-morrow: "What is noticeable now that was absent a few months ago, is that foundry irons may be had for present delivery for the same prices that have been quoted for the first half of 1899. But that condition does not apply to any other line of material, either raw or finished. Finished and semi-finished material for next year may be bought considerably lower than spot iron and steel. Consumption, however, is keeping just a little ahead of the production, but principally many have not yet caught up with old orders. Little actual new business has been offered."

Throughout eastern Pennsylvania quiet conditions in the iron trade continue. There is necessarily a moderate demand because everything is oversold. There is no disposition to crowd prices any higher, and to all appearances the top notch is at last reached. There are rumors of lower prices on some of the new brands. Billets have apparently weakened, and a good deal of business is liable to be closed in a short time, but buyers there will not pay the outside prices asked. The outlook is excellent for a still heavier consumption. The demand for nails has fallen off, and some concessions in prices have been allowed. The movement in bar wire is somewhat lighter, but smooth wire is strong. The movements of merchant steels from mills to consumers is quite heavy under old contracts and shippers are endeavoring to delay the renewal of contracts until after the opening of the year, when they hope to have a clearer vision